



Australian Government
Australian Research Council



SEMINAR SERIES 2025

20 May, 4:00 PM AEST

SPECIAL SEMINAR

Mazdak Radjainia, PhD

Managing Director at cryoDuck

Mazdak's cryo-EM career began at the Max Planck Institute in Frankfurt, Germany, and continued through a PhD and postdoctoral research in Auckland, New Zealand. He then joined Monash University as a facility scientist, working with numerous research groups across a diverse range of projects. One notable collaboration was with Patrick Sexton's lab, focused on solving GPCR structures using the Volta Phase Plate. Mazdak later moved into industry, joining Thermo Fisher Scientific's Pharma Cryo-EM business unit to lead strategic collaborations and help drive adoption of cryo-EM in drug discovery. Mazdak started cryoDuck B.V., where he support vendors, biotech companies, and investors aiming to realize the potential of cryo-EM.



Cryo-EM in Babel: Bridging Scientific Languages Beyond the Microscope

Cryo-EM remains a powerful and exciting technology, where technical mastery is essential—but only part of the challenge, particularly in industry settings. Equally critical is the ability to communicate across disciplines. This seminar will explore how cryo-EM scientists often act as translators—navigating a landscape of confusion and misalignment when working with vendors, drug hunters, technologists, marketers or pure academics. Such disconnects can hinder both scientific progress and personal growth as much as any technical obstacle. Mazdak will discuss the importance of interdisciplinary literacy in making cryo-EM successful—not just as a method, but as a career-shaping opportunity for the next generation of scientists.